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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Jane YE et al.

Art Unit: 1642

Serial No.: 09/817,198

Examiner: S. Rawlings

Filed: March 27, 2001

Atty. Docket: CL001188

For: ISOLATED HUMAN RAS-LIKE PROTEINS, NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES ENCODING THESE HUMAN RAS-LIKE PROTEINS, AND USES THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231 By Facsimile

Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action from Examiner Rawlings mailed on August 7, 2002 in which a restriction requirement was issued for the above referenced application. A Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time is submitted herewith. Please charge the Extension of Time fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0970.

By way of response, Applicants hereby elect claim group III, claims 4-6, 8-11, and 22-23, directed to nucleic acid molecules, vectors, host cells, etc., for examination and have canceled claims corresponding to the non-elected groups I-II and V-XII.

However, Applicants request reconsideration of the restriction because SEQ ID NOS:1 and 3 should be examined together, rather than being restricted into separate groups (e.g., groups III and IV). SEQ ID NOS:1 and 3 both encode the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, and MPEP §2434 specifically states that, "Nucleotide sequences encoding the same protein are not considered to be independent and distinct and will continue to be examined together."

Please amend the application as follows: